

Abstract

The goal of this action research project was to investigate the success of the unique Corporate Internship Program at the research site. This was done by answering the questions: What are the advantages and disadvantages of the Corporate Internship Program (CIP) at the research site? How does the program improve students' education and preparedness for the future? The researcher collected data through surveying, interviewing, and observing graduates, current students, and teachers of the program. Results of the study provided evidence that the main advantages of the Corporate Internship Program are "real-world work experience" and the opportunity to build a résumé. The main disadvantages of the CIP include the loss of class time each week, the program not being a good fit for everyone, and the inadequate number of corporate internships available this year. Though these are significant disadvantages, the researcher found most individuals to feel the advantages of participating in the Corporate Internship Program outweigh the disadvantages. The researcher has concluded that the Corporate Internship Program prepares students for the future by helping them mature and be more prepared in a variety of ways to be successful in college and life beyond high school. The researcher believes these results are valuable and will allow the research site to make improvements to the program.